

**From:** Traci L. Slatton  
**To:** Attorney General John Ashcroft  
**Date:** 1/28/02 9:03am  
**Subject:** Microsoft antitrust case

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New York, NY 10024-3734

January 24, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am pleased to know that after the government's long, three-year antitrust litigation against Microsoft, a settlement was reached in November of 2001. I support the settlement, which seems fair, reasonable, and responsible.

Allowing Microsoft to concentrate on its business now, while complying with the new restrictions of the settlement, gives them the opportunity to innovate more than ever. Innovation is certainly good for the economy, especially in the tech sector, which has been hit hard the last couple of years.

Starting with an upcoming version of Windows XP, users will be more easily able to delete portions or features of Windows (or at least access to them), and replace them with competing software. Computer makers no longer need fear higher prices for Windows licenses if they also ship other operating systems, or if they install Windows in ways to promote non-Microsoft applications.

That certainly sounds as if it should satisfy complaints from critics. I see this settlement as not only fair, but also a good thing for the economy, benefiting consumers and competitors with new options, and giving industry a chance to grow again. I urge you to support it.

Sincerely,

Traci Slatton

cc: Representative Jerrold Nadler

